the Bay, and so to a bridge called Puente de Saazo, where striking their masts and by help of certain engines upon the bridge, they went round about the Isle of Leon and came to Rota

But the eye and care of the two Generals was chiefly fixed upon the galleons and other great ships Whereupon they resolved to send the Lord Thomas Howard to encounter with them in the *Nonpar-eil,* adjoining with him some few ships of the Queen's, for the place was so narrow that hardly ten ships coald come to fight. With the Lord Thomas went Sir Walter Ralegh, Sir Francis Vere, Captain Robert Cross (with whom was the Earl of Sussex) and others And although it had been agreed in council that the Generals should not hazard their ships of greatest burden in those shoals, vet tne Earl of Essex could not endure to be only a looker-on in so honourable an action, but he put in amongst the thickest of them and foaght very gallantly , which the Lord Admiral seeing, and not being able to bring in his own ship, took his long boat and went aboard the *Miranore* With him into the fight went his young son Lord William, being at these young years -very desirous to seek and share honour with the oldest captains

This fight lasted till noon, by which time the galleons were cruelly rent and torn, and so much slaughter in them that the blood gushed out at the scuppet holes Whereupon some of the Spaniards resolved to fly to Porto Real, some to burn their ships, some to run them aground, and divers of them leapt into the water, whereof some swam ashore, some were drowned, some taken, some slain The Lord Admiral, be-holding this miserable spectacle, had compassion of them, and

took his boat and rowed up and down amongst them, forbidding these cruelties and preventing the firing of the Spanish ships so much as was possible, but they first fired and burnt the *St Pbthpy* a ship of 1,500 tons, the *St Thomas,* and the *S Juan* The other two apostles, S* *Matthew* and *St Andrew,* ships of 1,200 tons apiece, were saved and are now brought back to England

The battle by sea being thus happily fought and victory obtained, the Lords Generals straightway set in hand the landing of the soldiers, and in very little space there was such.